

SPIDER  
MAN

MARVEL COMICS GROUP™



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# the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



**THE SMASHER STRIKES!  
THE DISRUPTOR DESTROYS!  
ALL THIS AND A SHOCK ENDING, TOO!**





LETTERING: SAM ROSEN • DUFFY • COLORING: STAN G. • EDITOR: ROY THOMAS •

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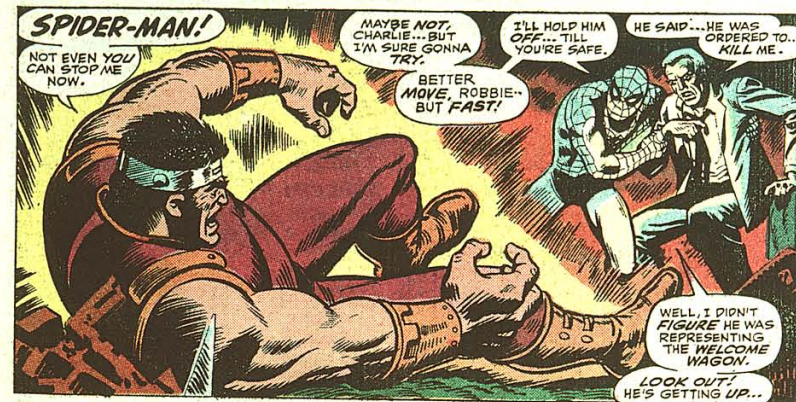
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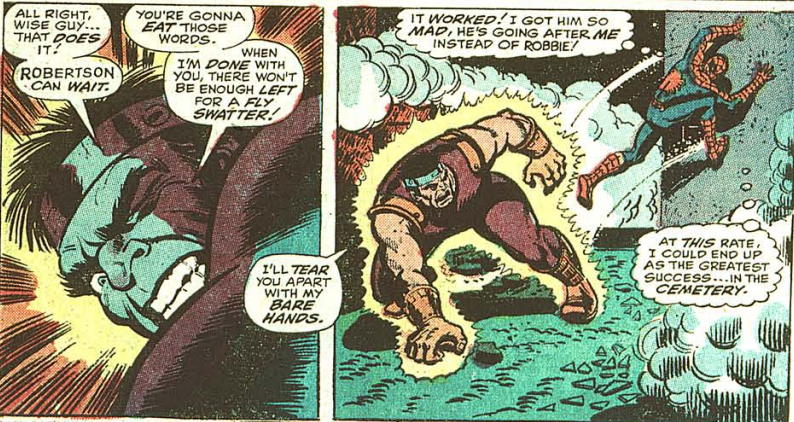
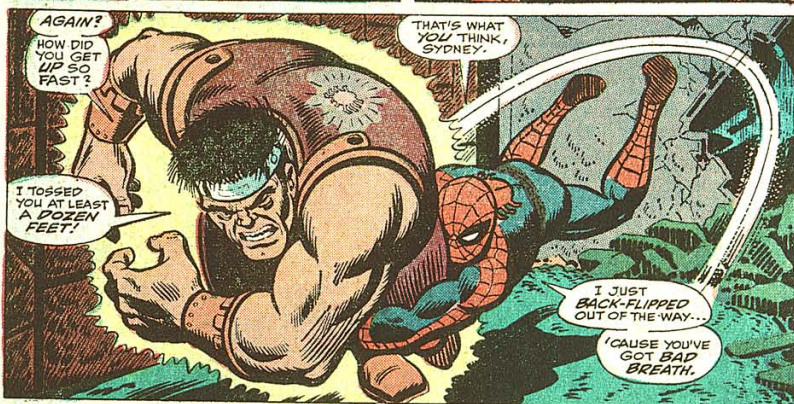
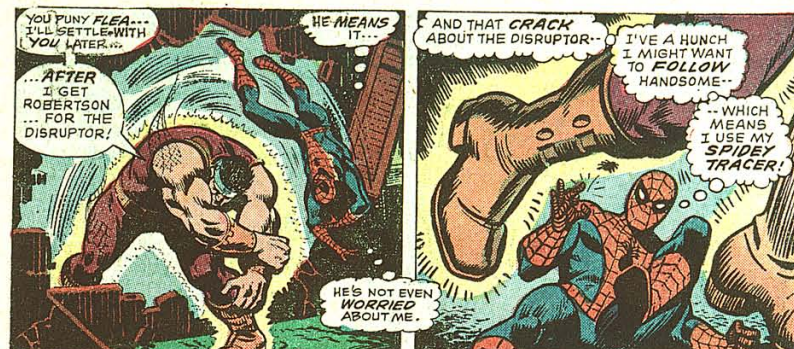
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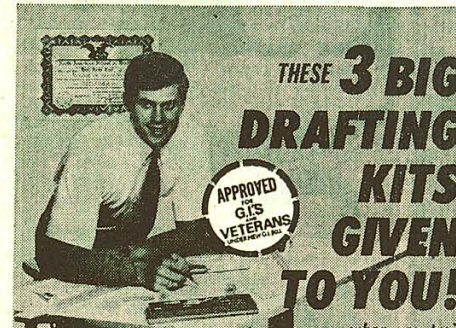


\*SPIDEY #116--RT.

NO GOOF! HE'S IN SPOOF--NOW ON SALE!

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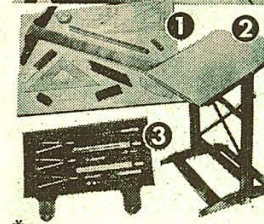
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Today's population explosion guarantees boom in building of homes, churches, schools, factories, office buildings & warehouses is just starting. Thousands Architectural Draftsmen needed NOW because drawings must be made of every part of every building before ground can be broken.

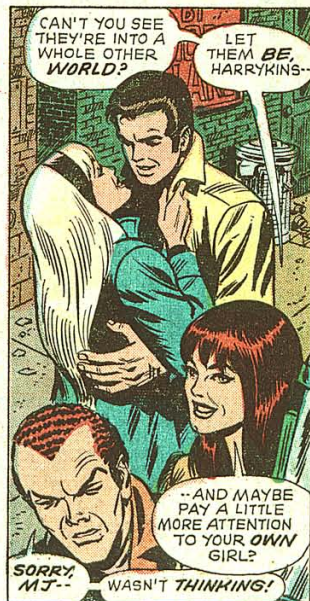
**2 Mechanical Drafting**  
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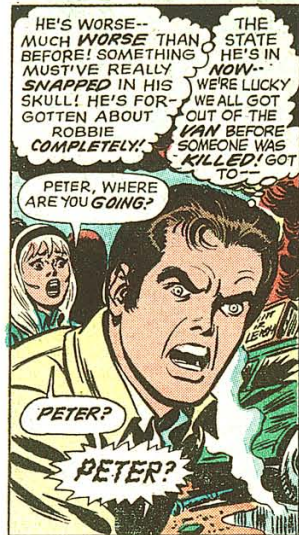
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# The Adventures of CORGI Boy

He's about to overtake him, but he's skidded out of control, tumbling over and over landing in a ditch. Fortunately, he's unharmed and my Corgi is perfectly indestructible!

He's about to overtake him, but he's skidded out of control, tumbling over and over landing in a ditch. Fortunately, he's unharmed and my Corgi is perfectly indestructible!

But by the time I reached my composure and speed, Dr. Fang had had time to reach his home. He was in the time he would have been in the Porsche 917. However, from a previous encounter with Fang along this very road, I recalled a risky but negotiable shortcut and I decided to take it. I was driving and immobilized him and his car, with one blast from my dam- controlled freeze ray.

I returned Fang to the Caves frozen stiff. With Fang safely contained again, I can turn my attention to combining his Corgi with my own. Only, it'll have to be later. I've got to go now.

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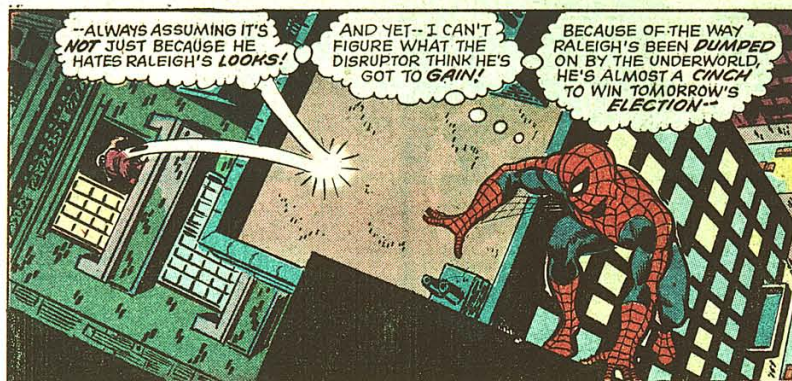
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FORGET THE FIDDLER ON THE ROOF! READ "THE THING ON THE ROOF!"

14



...SIXTH YEAR REPORT... SURVEY INDICATES RALEIGH LEADS...



--IN THE NOW-ON-SALE 15th OF CHAMBER OF GUILLS, WHERE ELSE?

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# Super

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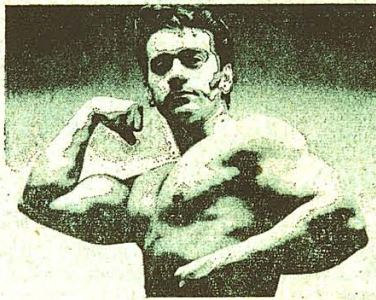
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"I have gained 20 pounds in just 30 days and I have gained over 6 inches on my chest. I find that my power has doubled. In sports I am a winner in everything I do." B. Daniels

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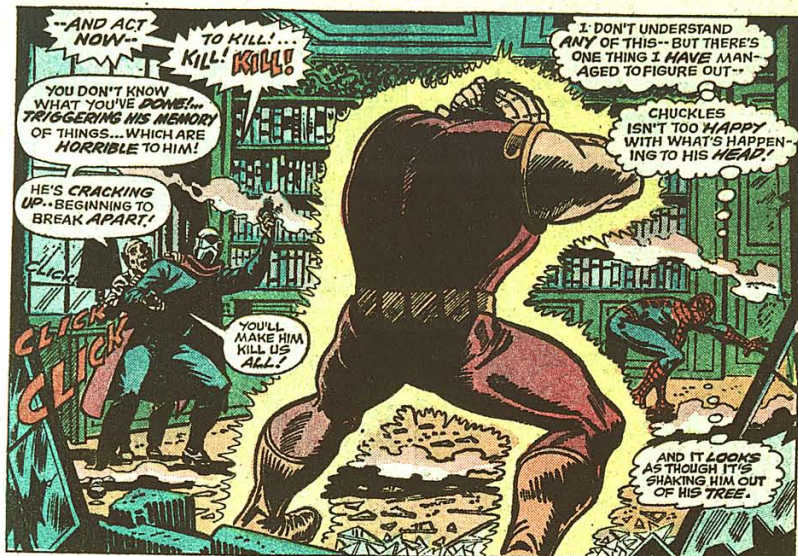


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...BARKING MAJOR TURNPOINT IN NEXT FEW PAGES...  
...RALEIGH IS THE MAN TO WIN... THE MAN TO WIN...



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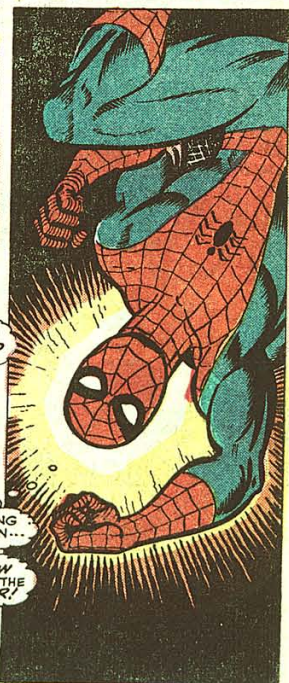
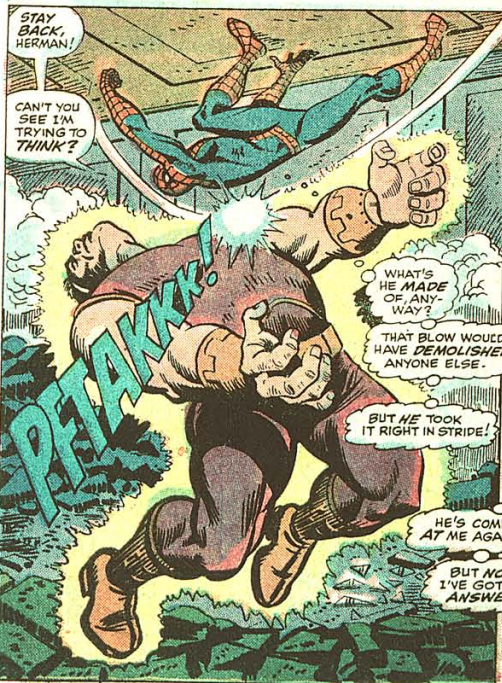
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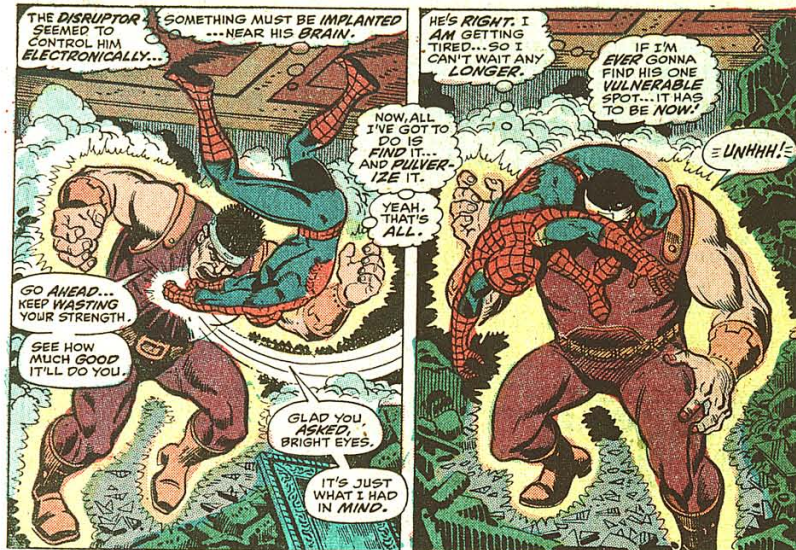
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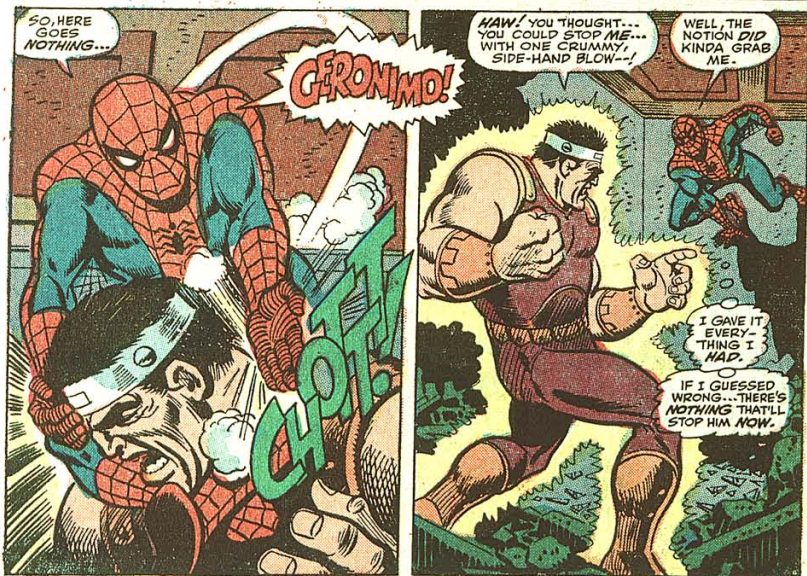
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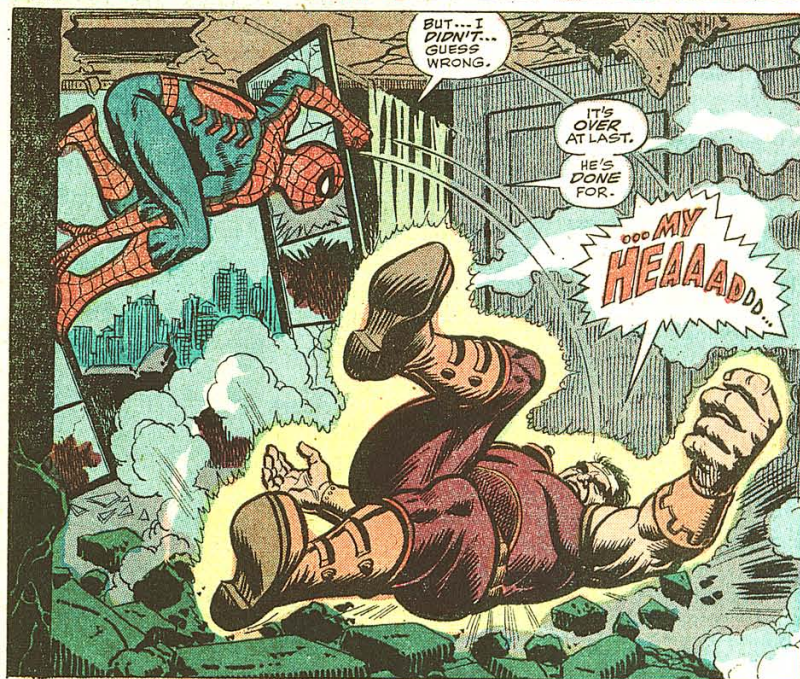
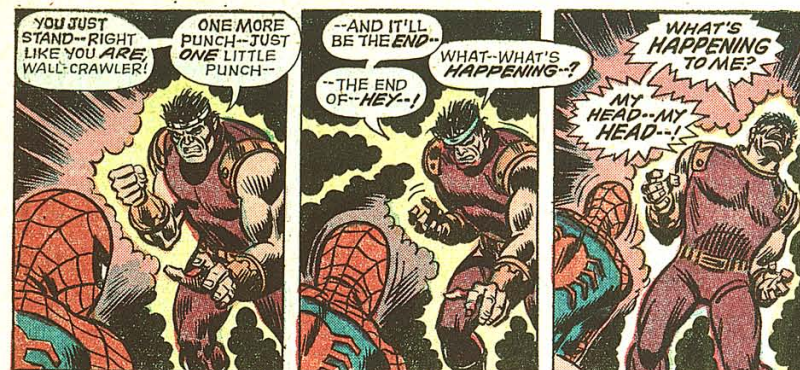


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THE NULK'S IN CANADA!

24



HOW'S THAT FOR A GOOD-NEIGHBOR POLICY?

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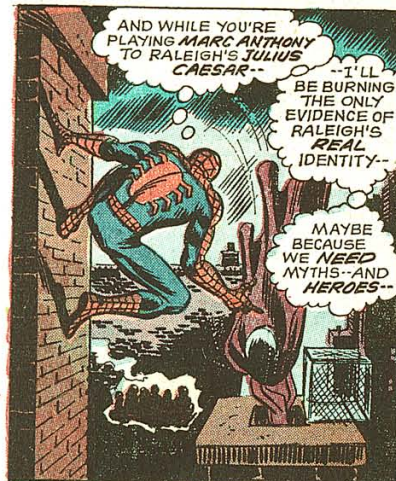
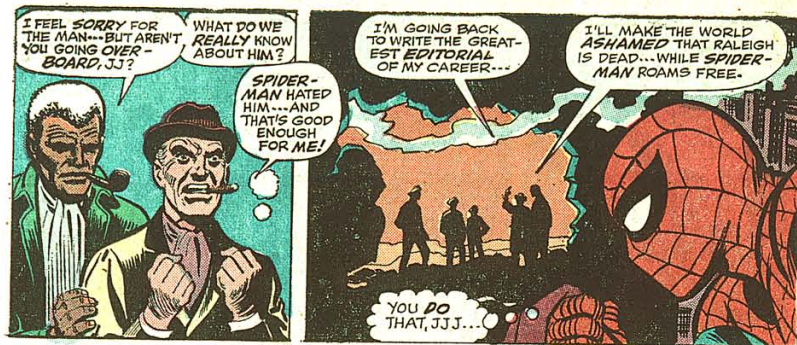
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# FOUR OR FIVE PHENOMENAL FLASHES, FITFULLY FASHIONED TO FIGHT LETHARGY! (Or: Those Wedding Bells Are Waking Up That Old Bullpen Gang Of Mine!)

## STAN LEE'S SOAPBOX

It worked, gang! You proved that you really do read the nutty news, notes, and nonsense which we try to cram into these pulsating pages each month. For the past few issues we've been sockin' it to you with our memorable mentions of the latest Marvel mystery known as — F.O.O.M. We hoped some of you would notice, and we figured we might even get a letter or two asking what F.O.O.M. was all about. But never in our wildest, wackiest flights of fancy could we have anticipated the fantastic flood of mail with which you've bombarded us demanding an explanation! So okay! The time hath come to pierce the veil of secrecy and illuminate the stygian darkness of most ignoble ignorance! And yet, F.O.O.M. is too much fun — too zingy a secret — to blow the whole bit in this one column. Instead, let's uncover just a part of the awesome answer and keep the suspense swingin' a while longer. F.O.O.M. is a name — composed of the first letters of four special words. Two of those words are "ol" and "Marvel". The other two? See if you can guess what they are by next ish. If you can, consider yourself no-prized, and don't breathe a word of it or we'll drum you out of the corps! If you can't, don't despair — you won't be deprived of the agonizin' answer much longer. So, till next time, keep the faith, face front, and don't do anything F.O.O.M. wouldn't do!

Excelsior!

Stan

**ITEM!** The big news around mighty Marvel this month is — a wedding! Nope, Spidey and Gwen haven't taken the big step yet — and bashful Ben Grimm is still footloose and fancy free — but the Hulk's very own HERB TRIMPE and lovely LINDA FITE (scripter of THE CAT, what else?) finally decided it was time they tied the knot! As these deathless words are penned, they've just said their "I do's" and split for some top-secret location (the Hulk-Buster Base, perchance?) for a full-scale honeymoon; then it's back to Fun City and more of our delirium-inducing deadlines! Last we heard, Herb and Linda hadn't yet formulated any plans for ol' Green-skinn to start going steady with the ever-clawing Cat — but from now on, don't take anything for granted, hear?

**ITEM!** Face it, friend — the whole wide world is going SPIDER-MAN happy! The other day, a wild new bi-weekly called *The Monster Times* devoted an entire issue to our web-spinning wonder, with a sizable (and well-deserved) spread on artist JOHNHY ROMITA! And now, who but the prestigious New Yorker maga-

zine has just featured a full-length piece on Spidey's sensational new scripter, GERRY (GERARD F.) CONWAY! Hmmm... *The Monster Times*... *The New Yorker*... Looks like there are no worlds left for the ol' wall-crawler to conquer, 'cept maybe the *Ladies' Home Journal*! But, who knows — maybe one of these fine days —!

**ITEM!** With a pair of brawny barbarians named CONAN and KULL currently the toast of comicdom, we figured it was time we bowed to countless requests to add yet a third sword-wielding hero to our legend-laden lineup! So, step aside for THONGOR, WARRIOR OF LOST LEMURIA — a stunning new series which debuts in the current issue of CREATURES ON THE LOOSE! Thongor is the cataclysmic creation of fantasy writer (and sometime Conan author) LIN CARTER, and is the star of some half dozen or more best-selling paperback books! Story and art are by GEORGE ALEC EFFINGER and VAL MAYERIK — and wait'll you dig how these two talented newcomers really move out! That's THONGOR — in CREATURES — now on the loose! End of plug!

**ITEM!** Apology time, people! A couple of months back, we announced we were planning a deluxe edition of miraculous MARVEL ORIGINS for release by Christmas '72! Well, our recent expansion to well over three dozen titles a month (or had you been counting?) has left us just too blamed breathless to get it all together in time for the Holidays — so we'll have to beg off for a little while, okay? Honest to Irving Forbush, though it's only a slight delay, not a permanent setback — and we'll clue you in on the exact release date the minute we know it ourselves! In other words — watch this space! (Not that it's doing much of anything, but at least that'll keep you out of mischief till our awesome ORIGINS book goes on sale!)

**MARVELOUS MARVEL MINI-ITEMS:** A special vote of thanks from ROY and JEANIE THOMAS, and from Jaunty JIM STERANKO, to the warm-hearted souls who made them Guests of Honor at the New England Comics Convention held recently in Boston, Mass.! Believe 'em when they tell you — it was a ball! • Talk about shockers! For months now, scripter STEVE ENGLEHART and our pal SAL BUSCEMA have been laying the groundwork for some far-out and far-reaching new developments in the life of our own shield-slingin' CAPTAIN AMERICA! And this is the month when it all comes home to roost! A word to the wise...! • Finally, now that Stainless Steve has gone over to full-time writing chores, let's welcome aboard Dauntless DON MCGREGOR, whom longtime Marvelites will recall from about a zillion letters-pages, and who's now helping Rascally ROY and STEVE (Baby) GERBER handle all our prodigious proof-reading chores! For the first time since

he took over as editor some time back, summer vacations are over and Roy's got a full contingent (two — count 'em — two!) of editorial assistants to help him out — so now maybe he and Smilin' STAN can finally find time to confer on all the cataclysmic changes and surprises they plan to unleash on you in the near and dear future! And when they do — watch out, wondrous one!



## MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST Now On Sale!

**SPIDER-MAN #118:** This is it! The way-out wind-up, as Spidey takes on both the deadly Disruptor — and the lethally-strong Smashler! A thrill on every page!

**FANTASTIC FOUR #132:** The uncanny Intumescens! The ominous behemoth called Omega Plus — the most shock-laden epilogue ever! Miss it not!

**CAPTAIN MARVEL #25:** Take it from us — The start of a world-shattering new storyline, destined to make C.M. one of the most talked-about titles in comic-book history!

**MARVEL TEAM-UP #7:** Together for the first time! Spidey and Thor, the mighty God of Thunder! All this — and a surprise super-baddie, to boot!

**SPOOF #4:** You've read *Dracula* — you've dug *Blacula* — now, feast your eyes (all four of 'em) on none other than — BLECHHUL! Plus — a Spoof against Marcus Welby, M.D.!

**CREATURES ON THE LOOSE #22:** Like we said: Thongor, Warrior of Lost Lemuria! More we gotta tell you?

Not to mention this Lineup of Litin' Landmarks:

**THOR #209** (Day of the Super-Druid!) — **HULK #161** — **CAPTAIN AMERICA & THE FALCON #159** — **AVENGERS #109** — **SUB-MARINER #59** (Namor takes on New York — and Thor, for good measure!)

**DAREDEVIL #97** — **IRON MAN #56** — **CONAN THE BARBARIAN #24** ("The Song of Red Sonja") — #1 on any hit parade! — **HERO FOR HIRE #7** (A Yuletide action epic, no less!) — **CLAWS OF THE CAT #3** — **CHAMBER OF CHILLS #3** ("The Thing on the Roof!") — **Robert E. Howard strikes again!** — **TOMB OF DRACULA #7** — **CRYPT OF SHADOWS #2** — **WAR IS HELL #2** — **AMAZING ADVENTURES #17** (Special! The origin of the blockbustin' Beast!) — **KULL THE CONQUEROR #7** — **MARVEL FEATURE #8** (The agonizin' ANIM fights on!) — **WEREWOLF BY NIGHT #4** — **MARVEL PREMIERE #7** (Dr. Strange — hot on the trail of world-devouring Shuma-Gorath!) — **NIGHT NURSE #3** — **Sgt. Fury #108** — plus other gargantuan goodies too numerous to mention (so we won't)!

Get 'em all, pilgrim! Like the man said — a prize in every package!

He took over as editor some time back, summer vacations are over and Roy's got a full contingent (two — count 'em — two!) of editorial assistants to help him out — so now maybe he and Smilin' STAN can finally find time to confer on all the cataclysmic changes and surprises they plan to unleash on you in the near and dear future! And when they do — watch out, wondrous one!



# THE SPIDER'S WEB

SEND YOUR LETTERS TO:  
THE MARVEL COMICS GROUP, NINTH FLOOR 575 MADISON AV., NEW YORK, N.Y. 10022

Dear Mr. Conway,

I have just read SPIDER-MAN #114, and I have a few questions concerning the scripting and plotting. On page 5, Hammerhead downs Parker with a shot to the head, yet he fails to follow through with his immediate intentions of killing him. Why, when Parker is unconscious, does Hammerhead not put a bullet through his head? Then, Hammerhead takes the helpless Parker to his hideout, yet at no point does he attempt to remove Spider-Man's mask. Presumably, knowing the identity of Spider-Man would be useful to Hammerhead in convincing the former to join Hammerhead's gang.

I have been following your Daredevil stories for some time, and I've enjoyed them immensely. I would greatly appreciate an answer to the above questions, because, although they seem minor, such inconsistencies in an otherwise rational plot have long intrigued me.

Mike Baron, 1108 Boylston St.  
Boston, Mass. 02215

You bring up an interesting point there, Mike, but we'd like to think that these items you mention aren't just inconsistencies. While Gerry's plots may be rational in execution, it doesn't necessarily mean that all of the characters nor many of the situations are rational themselves. Boy, was that a mouthful of words! Let's apply that directly to the instance you mention. At the time Hammerhead fired at Spidey, there were many conflicting situations occurring at the same moment. A hectic situation at best: Hammerhead's main concern was Doc Ock, who was a threat to his entire criminal organization. Immediately after Hammerhead fired and downed our hero, Hammerhead's attention was diverted by Ock. That explains why he didn't follow up his attack on Spidey. Also, Hammerhead could justifiably have reasoned that unmasking Spider-Man would hardly aid him in persuading our web-slinger to side with him. Besides, do you really think Hammerhead would have had any idea who Peter Parker was even if he had seen his face?

Sheesh, if this answer gets any longer, it'll have to be continued till next issue!

Well, never let it be said that Mighty Marvel doesn't take time to answer serious questions seriously. Now, before this answer becomes longer than the book itself, let's just say that we're glad to have rationalized those seeming inconsistencies for you and move on to see what the rest of Marveldom has to say about our favorite wall-crawler.

Dear Stan and Roy,

Sitting on the sidelines for ten years, I have watched Spider-Man rise to glorious heights, saw him lowered in barely passable stories, and finally, with issue #112 — 115, it looks as if he is back on his way up. It seems to me, what has made Spidey great in his early days is

so sorely lacking at the present. That is the number of sub-plots used in every issue. Five or six years ago there were nearly a half-dozen sub-plots in every issue. These sub-plots, as some critics may feel, do not take away from the main plot of a story, rather they strengthen it, enhance it, encourage it. Harry Osborn has all but been neatly worked out of the picture after a brief starring role in the Goblin epic. Mary Jane has made so few appearances in the last fifteen issues, that I forgot what she looks like.

Bill Creighton  
Providence, Rhode Island

As mentioned above, Bill, Gerry has many new directions that he intends to explore with Spidey and his multitude of friends. Mary Jane has already reappeared in these last issues, and the future of one Harry Osborn will play an important, upcoming role that we can't say much more about now... mainly because Gerry won't tell us any more than that. Now, with these enigmatic statements behind us, we'll just close up this letter page with a sinister laugh and some organ music. Sort of gives you chills, doesn't it?

## SPECIAL NIGHT-BEFORE-CHRISTMAS MESSAGE —FROM US TO YOU!

This we just had to remind you about, before you spend all your hard-earned Yuletide coppers on non-essentials like bouquets of holly and partridges in pear trees.

JIM STERANKO, one of Marveldom's favorite artists, is still making his HISTORY OF COMICS, a two-volume (so far!) set of 10½-by-14-inch tomes that'd go great under any true believer's Christmas tree! Among about a zillion superheroes of the so-called Golden Age of Comics who're covered in these titanic twins are Captain America, the Human Torch, and the sensational Sub-Mariner!

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And, if you think we've given Jim this unabashed plug because he's finally promised to do a few stories for Marvel as well as covers — well, move to the head of the Christmas Club line, astute one!

## STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION

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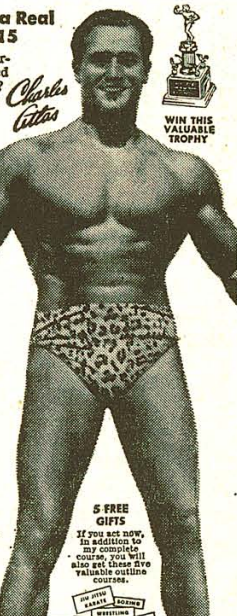
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